

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A method of desensitizing a human ~~an individual~~ to an allergen against which the individual mounts an allergic response, wherein the allergen is selected from the group consisting of venom, animal dander, pollen, and dust mite, comprising the step of delivering the an allergen against which the individual mounts an allergic response directly into a lymph node of the human said individual, wherein no more than three injections of the allergen are sufficient to desensitize the human to the allergen as assessed by sensitivity of the human to the allergen whereby the individual is desensitized to the allergen.

2. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein said lymph node is an axillary lymph node.

3. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein said lymph node is an inguinal lymph node.

4. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein the allergen is delivered to an antigen presenting cell within the lymph node.

5. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein the allergen is delivered to an immune cell within the lymph node.

6. (original) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of using an ultrasound device to monitor location of an injection needle.

7. (original) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of visualizing the lymph node using a radiological method.

8. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein the individual possesses defective lymph nodes.

9. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein the allergen is an extract or a purified substance.

10-13. (canceled)

14. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein the allergen is selected from the group consisting of a recombinant protein and a synthesized peptide.

15-18. (canceled)

19. (previously amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the allergen further comprises a physiologically acceptable carrier.

20. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein the allergen is accompanied by an adjuvant.

21. (canceled)

22. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein the step of delivering is carried out at least twice.

23. (previously amended) The method of claim 1 wherein 1 to 5 doses of from about 0.01 μg to about 10 μg of the allergen are delivered.

24. (previously amended) The method of claim 1 wherein a dose of from about 0.1 μg to about 50 μg of the allergen is delivered.

25. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein the allergen is delivered in fewer than about 10 doses.

26. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein the allergen is delivered in from 1 to about 5 doses.

27-44. (canceled)

45. (previously added) The method of claim 1 wherein the allergen is delivered into the lymph node with a syringe.

46. (previously added) The method of claim 45 wherein the syringe is a dual-chambered syringe.

47. (newly added) The method of claim 1 wherein the allergen is pollen.

48. (newly added) The method of claim 1 wherein the allergen is venom.